

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 OIC-04 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /136 R

DRAFTED BY IO/CMD:JWMARTIN:PHB

APPROVED BY IO/CMD:JWMCDONALD, JR.

IO/UNP:VHARTLEY

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R 091559Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 071413

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, ECOSOC, EGEN

SUBJECT: 56TH ECOSOC: REVIEW OF RULES OF PROCEDURE
(ITEM 11C)

REF: USUN A-352, 3/13/74

1. IN RESPONSE REPAIR, MISSION SHOULD DRAW ON FOLLOWING
COMMENTS IN REPLY TO UN SECRETARIAT RE ITS DRAFT RULES OF
PROCEDURE FOR ECOSOC.

2. THE USG COMMENDS THE SECRETARIAT FOR ITS COMPREHENSIVE
REVISION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL. NO SUCH REVISION HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED
SINCE THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL. THIS REASON,
PLUS RECENT DECISIONS ENLARGING THE COUNCIL AND RATIONA-
LIZING PROCEDURES, MAKE REVISION IMPERATIVE. IN GENERAL,
WE FIND THE PROPOSED RULES A CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT
NOT ONLY IN AN EDITORIAL SENSE BUT THEY ARE ALSO MORE IN
LINE WITH GA RULES AND MORE COMPREHENSIVE BY INCLUDING
PROVISIONS RELATING TO COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEES WHICH
DO NOT EXIST IN PRESENT RULES.

3. SPECIFICALLY, WE ARE PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO SUPPORT
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PROPOSED RULES 29, 47 AND 59 AS EMBODYING THE WISH FOR

REFORM EXPRESSED BY THE COUNCIL AT ITS FIFTY-FIRST SESSION.

WE ALSO BELIEVE PROPOSED RULE 83 WILL SERVE TO REVITALIZE THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NGOS BY PROVIDING ALL UN MEMBERS OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND BY PROVIDING LONGER TERM OF OFFICE.

4. WE HAVE SOME QUESTION RE CERTAIN PROPOSED RULES UNDER SECTION XI, "VOTING," SINCE PAGE 27 MISSING FROM SECRETARIAT DOCUMENTATION. WE ASSUME MISSING PROPOSED RULES 65 AND 66 INCLUDE PROVISIONS OF PRESENT COUNCIL RULES 60, 61 AND 62. THESE ARE VITALLY IMPORTANT RULES WHICH MUST SERVE AS CLEAR GUIDE TO MEMBERS IN RESOLUTION OF CONTENTIOUS ITEMS.

5. THE US LOOKS FORWARD TO PARTICIPATING IN DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED RULES OF PROCEDURE AT THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE SESSION SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE APRIL 29 TO MAY 3.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, COMMITTEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE071413
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JWMARTIN:PHB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740081-0888
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740455/aaaabxox.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USUN A-352, 3/13/74
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUN 2002 by bryansd0>; APPROVED <19 DEC 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 56TH ECOSOC: REVIEW OF RULES OF PROCEDURE (ITEM 11C)
TAGS: EGEN, AORG, UN, ECOSOC
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005